EX PARTE OP LAFTAE

Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RALFIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

MAILING ADDRESS POST OFFICE BOX 1800 RALEIGH N.C. 27602

1600 WACHOVIA CAPITOL CENTER 150 FAYETTEVILLE STREET MALL RALEIGH N.C. 27601

TELEPHONE (9191839-0300) FACSIMILE (919) 839-0304

WWW BROOKSPIERCE COM



OF COUNSEL

J LEE LLOYD SPECIAL COUNSEL

FOUNDED 1897

AUBREY L BROOKS (1872 1958) WH HOLDERNESS (1904 1965) L.P. McLENDON (1890-1968) KENNETH M BRIM (1898 1974) C.T. LEONARD JR. (1929 1983) CLAUDE C PIERCE (1913 1988) THORNTON H BROOKS (1912 1988) G NEIL DANIELS (1911-1997) HUBERT HUMPHREY (1928-2003)

> GREENSBORO OFFICE 2000 RENAISSANCE PLAZ 230 NORTH ELM STREET GREENSBORO N.C. 27401

WASHINGTON OFFICE 601 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW SUITE 900 SOUTH BUILDING WASHINGTON DC 20004

WRITER SIDIRECT DIAL

(919) 834-9216 whargrove@brookspierce.com

L P MCLENDON JR EDGAR B FISHER JR ALLISON M GRIMM ELIZABETH'S BREWINGTON W ERWIN FULLER JR JAMEST WILLIAMS JR H ARTHUR BOLICK II
J EDWIN TURLINGTON JOHN M CROSS JR JENNIFER K VAN ZANT WADE H HARGROVE M DANIEL MCGINN KATHLEEN M THORNTON MICHAELD MEEKER WILLIAM G MCNAIRY DAVID W SAR EDWARD C WINSLOW III
HOWARD & WILLIAMS
GEORGE W HOUSE
WILLIAM P.H. CARY BRIAN J. MCMILLAN NATALIE KAY SANDERS DAVID KUSHNER DEREK J ALLEN ELIZABETH V LAFOLLETTE REID L PHILLIPS ROBERT A SINGER GINGER S SHIELDS RANDALL A UNDERWOOD S LEIGH RODENBOUGH IV ROBERT W SAUNDERS JENNIFER T HARROD CHARLES E COBLE JILL R WILSON JOHN M DEANGELIS CLINTON R PINYAN KATHRYN V PURDOM MARC D BISHOP JIM W PHILLIPS JR MACK SPERLING STEPHEN G HARTZELL JORDAN JEFFREY E OLEYNIK MARK DAVIDSON JESSICA M MARLIES
TERESA DELOATCH BRYANT JOHN W ORMAND III ROBERT J KING III ELIZABETH TAYLOR MEHAFFEY ANDREW J. HAILE V RANDALL TINSLEY CHARLES F MARSHALL III J BENJAMIN DAVIS S KYLE WOOSLEY FORREST W CAMPBELL JR CAROLINE R. HEIL MARCUS W TRATHEN KATHERINE A MURPHY JEANIC BROOKS SARA R VIZITHUM JAMESIC ADAMS II C SCOTT MEYERS

MARK J. PRAK

January 9, 2004

RECEIVED

JAN 1 2 2004

EDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION PFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20544

Re: Ex Parte Notification CS Docket No. 98-120-CS Docket No. 00-96 CS Docket No 00-2

Dear Ms Dortch:

This is an exparte notification filed pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules.

On January 8, 2004, Deborah McDermott, Chair, and Robert Hubbard and George DeVault, members, of the ABC Television Affiliates Association, and the undersigned met, in spearate meetings, with Commissioner Michael Copps and his Legal Advisor, Jordan Goldstein; Commissioner Kevin Martin and his Legal Advisor, Catherine Bohigian; and Commissioner Katherine Abernathy and her Legal Advisor, Stacy Robinson Fuller.

The purpose of the meetings was to urge the Commissioners to support "must carry" for broadcast digital multicasting. The broadcasters explained the difficulty they had encountered in negotiations with various cable companies (except for Time Warner Cable) in securing carriage of their digital multicast signals.

An original and eight copies of this letter are being filed with the Secretary with additional copies delivered to each person who participated in the meetings.

Marlene H. Dortch January 9, 2004 Page 2

If any questions should arise during the course of your consideration of this matter, it is respectfully requested that you communicate with this office

Very truly yours,

Wade H. Hargrove

WHH/bp

cc Commissioner Kevin J Martin
Commissioner Michael J Copps
Commissioner Kathleen Q Abernathy
Jordan Goldstein, Esq
Catherine Bohigian, Esq.
Stacy Robinson Fuller, Esq